

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Grissith on 3/24/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

Dependency of claim 3 has been changed to ---1---.

Dependency of claims 9-11 has been changed ---1, 3, 7 or 8---.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record does not disclose or render obvious a process, as called for in claim 1, for bulk hydrogenation of a plurality of different unsaturated olefinic hydrocarbon in a catalytic distillation. Then, the unhydrogenated olefinic hydrocarbon compounds comprising lightest and heaviest olefinic hydrocarbon compounds are recovered. The closest art of record - Luebke (5,449,501) - discloses a total hydrogenation of olefins. Therefore, it is expected that no olefin can escape the hydrogenation in the Luebke process. If so, the recovery steps of unreacted lightest olefin and unreacted heaviest olefins in the olefinic feedstock which are required in the claimed process do not exist in the Luebke process.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to THUAN D. DANG whose telephone number is (571)272-1445. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Caldarola can be reached on 571-272-1444. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/THUAN D DANG/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797